

which action is earnestly requested.

NO NEW MATTER HAS BEEN ADDED.

Additionally, submitted contemporaneously herewith is a Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time (in triplicate) along with appropriate fees to extend the period for response to the Office Action until April 14, 2001. A grant of the Petition for Extension of Time is hereby respectfully requested.

It is believed that no additional fees are due or owing in regard to the submission of this Response and Amendment and its attached and related papers. However, if such fees are deemed due, the Office is invited to contact the undersigned at the address and telephone number listed below.

The paragraphs that follow in conjunction with the amendments to the application presented above are submitted in full and complete response to the points raised in the Office Action that require such action.

RE: Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1, 11, 16, and 17 have been amended to better define the present invention, to address the Examiner's rejections, and to clearly and patentably distinguish the claims of the instant Application over the prior art and the references cited by the Examiner. For example, language has been added to the claims to better define construction of search sentences based on pre-configured navigation options that include pre-configured sentence parts (e.g., pre-stored terms and words making up sentences) and the use thereof. For example, a search sentence is made up of pre-configured sentence parts that may include a verb, an object, and a destination. See twice amended claim 1 for example. Such pre-configured sentence parts are included within

a software object such as a database that is served from a server computer to a client system via a network connection.

Accordingly, those having ordinary skill in the art will readily appreciate that a search sentence is completely distinguishable from a web search engine search expression, such as those using KEYWORDS or phrases like those shown and described in the references cited by the Examiner (e.g., Yahoo!, LYCOS, etc.).

NO NEW MATTER HAS BEEN ADDED.

Allowance of all claims is earnestly requested, especially in view of the remarks presented below.

Examiner's Response to Previous Arguments & Invitation for Examiner Interview

At page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that Applicant's earlier submitted amendments and remarks regarding patentability are unpersuasive. With all due respect, it is earnestly requested that the Examiner carefully review the amendments presented herein and the remarks found below. The Applicant avers that the claimed invention of claims 1-25, as amended, are clearly and patentably distinguishable over the prior art and the references cited by the Examiner. The citations provided by the Examiner, and the actual identified textual passages indicated by the Examiner, do not show, teach or otherwise suggest the claimed invention of claims 1-25 of the above-titled patent application. Careful review of the cited references will immediately lead the Examiner to reasoned conclusion that the cited references have and continue to be deficient in showing or otherwise teaching the merits of the claimed invention of claims 1-25, as amended.

Accordingly, Applicant's representative respectfully suggests and invites the Examiner to engage in a Examiner Interview to discuss the merits of the claimed invention and the fact that the same is patentably distinct over the cited prior art references. The Examiner is further invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at numbers listed at the end of this paper.

Rejection of Claims 1-25 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Spanning pages 1 to 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-25 under 35 USC § 103(a), as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patents No. 5,913,215 to Rubinstein et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,061,738 to Osaku et al. The Examiner provides opines that Rubinstein in view of Osaku teaches the claimed invention.

Basically, the Examiner asserts that Rubinstein discloses substantially the same features of the invention as claimed in claims 1-25. The Examiner further asserts that Rubinstein teaches a method of using a network content search engine, comprising the steps of: loading a software package facilitating construction of a navigation sentence out of pre-configured sentence parts, said pre-configured sentence parts including at least one network navigation destination instruction; and accessing a second network location based on said at least one network navigation destination instruction. The Examiner admits that Rubinstein fails to disclose where a first network location is accessed to receive the software package, serving the software to the client processing system to run thereby. The Examiner attempts to make up for the missing elements and deficiencies of Rubinstein by referring to Osaku. The Examiner asserts that Osaku teaches a communication data/access retrieval system/method for accessing information via URL's, discloses means for accessing a first network location to receive/download a software package, servicing said software to a client processing system to be run thereby, and additionally

discloses a method of using a network content search engine associated with a database module that includes a second network location via a network navigation destination instruction (URL), initiated within a client-side system running in accordance with a WWW browser software application. The Examiner further asserts that it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the system in Rubinstein with a means for accessing a first network location to receive the software package via WWW client-browser application as taught by Osaku to derive the present invention as defined by claims 11 and 16. The Examiner asserts that one would be motivated to make such a modification because it would add functionality to an existing client-browser software application's location address field by storing/updating said navigational destination instruction obtained by the software program locally, thereby increasing system time-response and making better utilization of bandwidth resources, both performance and cost-efficient desirable means.

The Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection and asserts the following remarks.

Rubinstein and Osaku, either separately or together, fail to show, teach, or otherwise suggest each and every element of the present invention as defined by claims 1-25, as amended. As already described above, the claims of the instant Application have been amended to include language that better defines "a search sentence" and the use thereof in the present invention. In great contrast to the use of pre-configured KEYWORD/phrases as apparently taught in Rubinstein, a search sentence is an English-like sentence that is used to correspond to a network addressable resource and to navigate directly to a particular network location. The search sentence is constructed from pre-stored, pre-configured sentence parts stored within a database or other software package (that is downloaded to a network client or browser, for example)

including at least a verb, an object (i.e., the specification discusses a subject (see specification page 12, lines 12-23), but in the English language, the subject as defined in the specification corresponds to an object part of a sentence, and therefore, object and subject are interchangeable for the purposes of describing the present invention), and a destination. See e.g., claim 11, lines 4-5. Accordingly, a search sentence could be “Buy CDs at amazon.com.” where “Buy” is the verb, “CDs” is the object/subject and “amazon.com” is the destination (here, a home page is used as an exemplary destination, however, the present invention is not so limited; for example, a company name, domain name, etc. may be used (“AMAZON” instead of a URL such as “www.amazon.com”), etc.). The present invention then or contemporaneously selects a network navigation destination instruction based upon the search sentence selected from pre-stored, pre-configured sentence parts that are included within a served database or other software object. See e.g., amended claims 1 and 11. THE SENTENCE PARTS OF THE PRESENT INVENTION MAY BE PRESENTED IN THE FORM OF LISTS (E.G., DROP-DOWN LISTS, ETC.) THAT ARE STORED WITHIN A SERVED SOFTWARE OBJECT (E.G., A DATABASE, ETC.); SUCH SENTENCE PARTS ARE THEN SELECTED BY A USER TO FORM A SEARCH SENTENCE THAT DIRECTLY CORRESPONDS TO A NETWORK LOCATION SUCH A NETWORK DOCUMENT (E.G., A HOMEPAGE html document).. For example, a user may complete the sentence “I WANT TO...” by first selecting a verb “BUY,” then selecting an object “CDs” or “A CAR”, then selecting a destination such as “AMAZON” or “FORD.COM,” respectively, to form the complete sentence “I WANT TO BUY CDs at AMAZON.” The sentence parts “CDs,” “CAR,” “AMAZON,” and “FORD” in this example, are pre-stored within a served data object (e.g., a software object or part of a software package, a database, etc.) that is served to a user’s browser for appropriate user selection such as from an

online form object (e.g., a drop-down box, etc.), for example – see claim 1 as amended. The user does not self-specify or enter his/her own personnel terms into an open-ended search expression as is the case with conventional search engine technology and services (as exemplified by Rubinstein, etc.), but INSTEAD, selects from pre-stored, pre-configured sentence part terms. In the present invention, sentence parts (e.g., BUY CDs at AMAZON) may be allocated to particular destination such as AMAZON.COM in the context of an advertising arrangement or the like. (In the present example, a network navigation destination instruction could be a particular URL within the amazon.com website (e.g., www.amazon.com/cds/doc.html, etc.). An exemplary illustration of pre-stored sentence parts is shown in the attached EXHIBIT A – a screen shot of a website known as SIMPLE.COM which includes an implementation of the instant invention (known as the SITE ENGINE™ -- shown in the left hand corner of the screen near the sentence stem “I WANT TO...;” The Examiner is invited to visit simple.com (www.simple.com) to engage in an online, hands-on demonstration of the present invention.

In great contrast to the present invention, Rubinstein teaches the use of KEYWORDS and phrases, which are completely different from a search sentence as defined by the present invention. See Rubinstein at column 2, lines 28-67. Rubinstein teaches pre-analyzing network files (web sites, etc.) to extract KEYWORDS (e.g., those which are embedded in a html document header, etc.) from them and then allows the user to select from the extracted KEYWORDS in order to do a more limited network search (i.e., another network search using KEYWORDS). See Id. In fact, Rubinstein states that its methods operate by prompting a computer-user to enter a search string comprised of keywords. See Rubinstein at ABSTRACT. The search string according to Rubinstein is communicated to a plurality of search engines located at respective World Wide Web sites. Id. Each of the plurality of search engines is

prompted to concurrently identify a respective plurality of web pages containing text consistent with the user's search string and to return to the user a respective URL for each such web page identified. Id. Furthermore, each web page is linguistically analyzed to automatically identify for the user keyword phrases therein, etc. Id. The search engines that Rubinstein contemplates are Yahoo! or LYCOS.COM like in nature – those that accept only unformatted, free-formed keyword specifications from users. Such search engine functionality only allows a user to repetitively dig-down deeper and deeper at successive levels of search to possibly arrive at content that matches a user's search criteria, which possibly does not match his actual desired intention (to quickly navigate to a particular network location based on some desired activity).

S Rubinstein teaches nothing of selecting pre-stored sentence parts that may be served within a data object such as a database sent from a server, etc. as is defined by amended claims 1-25. In contrast to all cited prior art, the present invention as defined by amended claims 1-25 allows a user to go immediately to a network location (e.g., homepage, etc.) that directly matches his desired intention (e.g., "...to buy books at AMAZON.COM.").

In the present invention, no network search is performed. Instead, the network navigation destination instruction is selected and executed, thus navigating directly to the destination network site. See e.g., claim 11, lines 7-8, specification page 18, lines 5-22. Furthermore, a search sentence does not utilize KEYWORDS as Rubinstein requires. In fact, if a search sentence were used to perform a network search like KEYWORDS, the search results would be undoubtedly inaccurate. Unlike KEYWORDS, a search sentence, as defined by the present invention, provides a new and useful way to directly navigate to a network address(es) in direct response to what a user actually wants to accomplish (e.g., buy compact discs from Amazon.com, etc.).

The Examiner attempts to make up for the missing elements in Rubinstein by referring to Osaku. Osaku fails to make up for the missing elements in Rubinstein. Osaku teaches systems and methods for navigating the Internet and World Wide Web. In particular, Osaku teaches an elaborate process for navigating to a web site via a web browser based on a number or character string input into a web browser's address window. Column 4, lines 32-65. The process in Osaku allows a user to put a number in the address window of a browser that the browser uses to determine or map to a URL (uniform resource locator – e.g., the "http://www.desiredsitestring.bbb" string entered into a browser's address field). The browser may contact a web site to determine the URL based on the number already input into the browser window and can navigate to a particular URL if found. Nowhere does Osaku show, teach or otherwise suggest that a first network address is accessed to receive a software package that facilitates the building of a search sentence from pre-stored, pre-configured sentence parts as defined by the present invention. In great contrast to the present invention, Osaku requires that the initial string be placed in the web browser address window and to access a network addresses to perform some type of network search to determine the URL (e.g., a web site is accessed in order to access a database to receive the URL). See Id. Furthermore, Osaku does not show, teach or otherwise suggest any type of search sentence construction, as defined by the present invention, as defined by claims 1-25 as amended.

Thus, it would not have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Rubinstein with Osaku to derive the present invention as defined by claims 1-25, as amended. At best, the combinations of the prior art would produce a web browser that can access a web site to facilitate access to a database to perform some sort of additional KEYWORD network search.

The references relied on and cited by the Examiner cannot be said to show, teach, or otherwise suggest the present invention as defined by claims 1-25, as amended. In particular, neither Rubinstein nor Osaku, either alone or in combination, show, teach, or otherwise suggest a system for building and executing a network navigation instruction via corresponding sentence construction that includes a server data processing system having at least one database storing pre-configured navigation options and corresponding pre-configured navigation destination instructions, and a client data processing system coupled to the server data processing system via an electronic data network and configured with at least one program, wherein the least one program causes the client data processing system to access the server data processing system to load the pre-configured navigation options and the corresponding pre-configured navigation destination instructions into a local data storage facility, to facilitate construction of a navigation sentence via user selection of pre-configured sentence parts **included within said pre-configured navigation option...** as defined by amended claim 1, for example, and as claimed in claim 11 (...constructing said navigation sentence from said pre-configured sentence parts included within said software package...), as amended, and as claimed 17 (...a destination included within said database module...), etc. **The inclusion of sentence parts that are served from a server, for example, and which are user-selected is a feature of the claimed invention that is neither shown, taught, nor otherwise suggested by the references relied upon by the Examiner.** The features of the dependent claims are now included herein by reference; lengthy verbose comments about such dependent claims have been omitted here for purposes of brevity.

Accordingly, in view of the aforementioned comments, it is respectfully asserted that claims 1-25, as amended, are distinguishable and clearly patentable over Rubinstein in view of

Osaku under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Thus, for the foregoing reasons, it is earnestly requested that the Examiner's rejection be withdrawn and that claims 1-25, as amended, be allowed to issue in a U.S. Patent.

Conclusions

This Amendment and Response is submitted in complete response to the Final Office Action mailed November 14, 2001, and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Presented in this paper are amendments to the claims that place the same in condition for allowance, and remarks that respond to the Examiner's rejections of the claims. Entry of this paper and the amendments presented herein into the official files pertaining to the above-titled U.S. patent application is earnestly solicited as is allowance of the pending claims and the grant of a U.S. Patent.

NO NEW MATTER HAS BEEN ADDED.

Additionally, submitted contemporaneously herewith is a Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time (in triplicate) along with appropriate fees to extend the period for response to the Office Action until September 23, 2000. A grant of the Petition for Extension of Time is hereby respectfully requested.

It is believed that no additional fees are due or owing in regard to the submission of this Response and Amendment and its attached and related papers. However, if such fees are deemed due, the Office is invited to contact the undersigned at the address and telephone number listed below.

If it is believed that a telephonic or in-person Examiner interview will in any expedite the handling of this Response and Amendment to further examination on the merits of the instant patent application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone numbers and address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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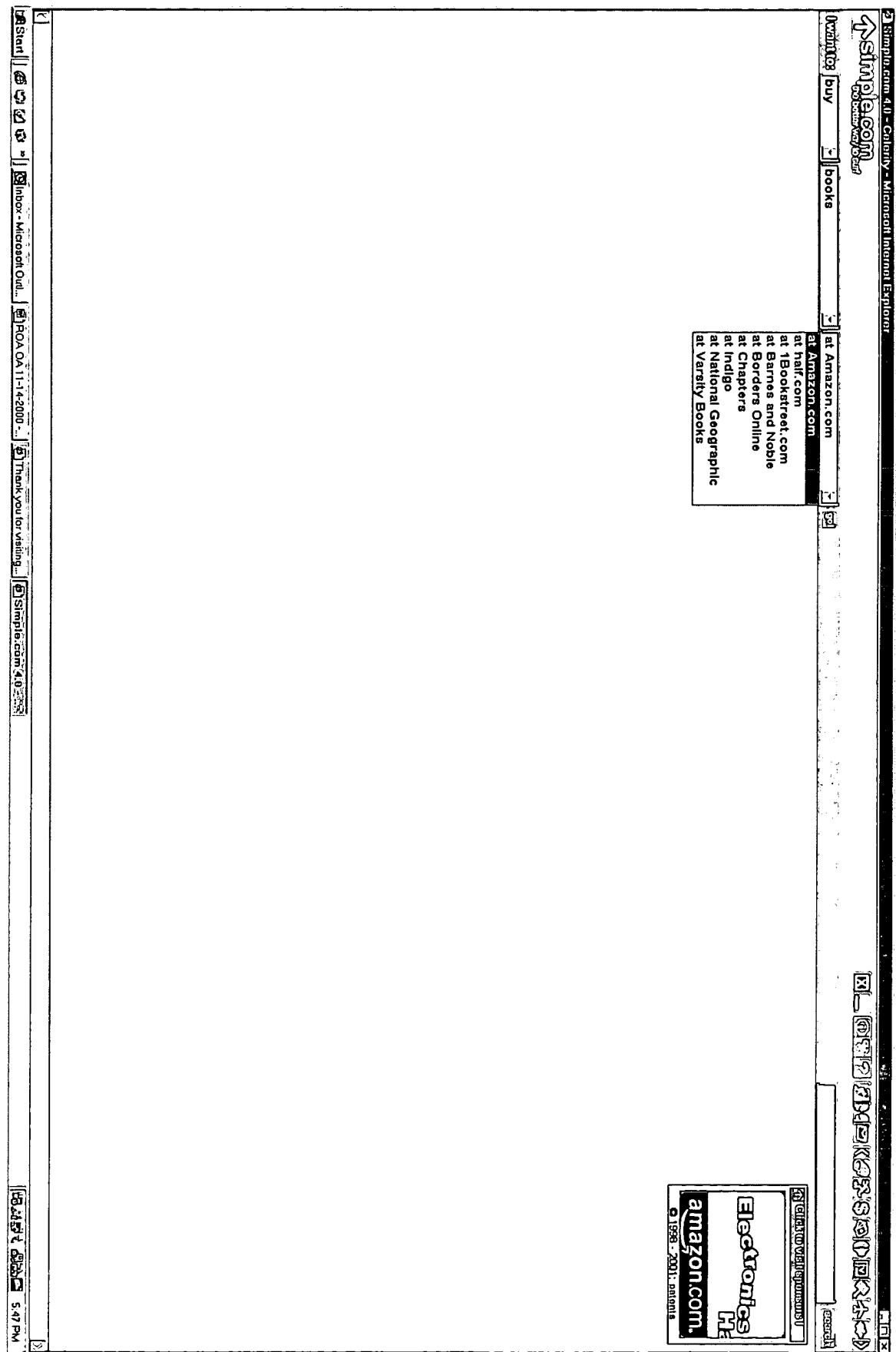


EXHIBIT A